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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Jörg HEIN

Date: October 21, 2003

Serial No.: 10/058,603

Group Art Unit: 3635

Filed: January 28, 2002

Examiner: HORTON, Yvonne M.

For: CONNECTING ELEMENT FOR HOLLOW SECTIONS
OF DIFFERENT CROSS-SECTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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OCT 28 2003

GROUP 3600

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted supplementally to the Disclosure Statement filed September 25, 2003. In that Disclosure Statement, German reference 299 16 467 was cited, however, no copy was yet available. The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted to provide the copy of this references. Applicants do not have an English-language translation of this reference readily available. This reference discloses an instrument carrier.

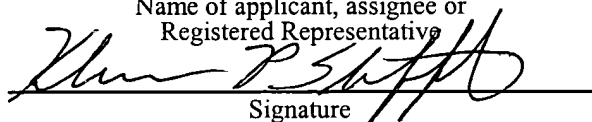
The present invention defines a specific connecting element which is not believed to be disclosed by the enclosed reference.

In the event the actual fee is greater than the payment submitted or is inadvertently not enclosed or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on October 21, 2003:

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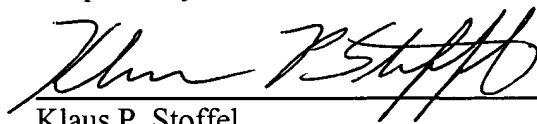
Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative


Signature

October 21, 2003

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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